

**Minutes**  
**Vermont 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**April 25, 2023**  
**2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Attendance:**

Laura V. Trieschmann, Commission Chair

Jim Brangan, Vice Chair

John Kruger, Finance and Admin Committee vice chair

Jonah Spivak, School and Teacher Outreach Committee chair

Susan McClure, Research and Historical Committee chair

James Lockridge, Arts and Cultural Heritage Committee chair

Martin Mahoney, Marketing and Public Outreach Committee chair

Cynthia Davis, Administrative Coordinator

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**II. Changes to the Agenda**

- No changes to agenda

**III. Public Comment**

- No public comment

**IV. Approve March 28, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

- Mr. Mahoney made a motion to approve the March 28, 2023, meeting minutes. Mr. Kruger seconded the motion. Mr. Brangan abstained. Motion passed by consensus.

**V. Committee Reporting**

- **Admin and Finance**

- Mr. Brangan reported the last meeting of the committee was canceled and will be rescheduled within the coming month. Mr. Brangan will draft a policy regarding requirements for the use of funds for events, conferences, and training by the commissioners and committee members, creating a fair process for attending on behalf of VT250. Ms. Trieschmann asked that those who do attend should report back on the points beneficial to all. She reported the funding request of VT250 has been returned to the Big Bill budget by Senate Appropriations.

- **Marketing and Public Outreach**

- Mr. Mahoney reported the committee is still waiting for funding to begin marketing and outreach programming. He requested the review of the Curriculum Vitale and approval of Howard Coffin as a member of the committee.
  1. Mr. Spivak made a motion to approve Howard Coffin for the Marketing and Outreach Committee. Mr. Kruger seconded the motion. Motion passed by consensus.
- Discussions continued surrounding the importance of diversity and statewide representation on the committees. A seasonal temp hired by ACCD will assist the committee, and the commissioner of Tourism and Marketing has agreed a member of her department should be on the committee (she is reviewing who that should be).
- Mr. Spivak inquired if the goals for outreach have evolved and if there is new guidance from the Executive Committee. Ms. Trieschmann referred to the Strategic Goals document that was approved by the Commission. The goals can evolve over time as each is met and new goals/tasks arise.
- **Research and Historical**
  - Ms. McClure provided an update on Research and Historical Committee and proposed a funding request to have a representative from [Revolutionary Narratives](#) present and supply the Revolutionary Narrative Toolkit to the commission at the full meeting in June. Revolutionary Narratives has a companion tool kit to complement the AASLH guide. The proposal cost is \$922.50 for the presentation and 20 black/white copies of the kit or \$1,269.50 for a color kit. Ms. McClure advised the kit is a booklet intended for historic sites and museums and will ask for an example to share with the commission. Discussions continued about the audience of the presentation, commission or historic sites and museums. Mr. Kruger suggested the commission witness the presentation before presenting the kits to communities. Ms. McClure advised the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is willing to share the cost of the presentation and toolkits.
    1. Mr. Spivak made a motion to approve the funding request of \$922.50 for Revolutionary Narratives to present and provide the Revolutionary Narrative Toolkit. Mr. Mahoney seconded the motion. Motion passed by consensus.
    2. Ms. Trieschmann contacted LCMM about coordinating costs.
- **Arts and Cultural Heritage**
  - Mr. Lockridge reported the committee is meeting on April 27, 2023, and has coordinated a conversation with staff from America250 for information about support for arts and cultural heritage. The meeting/conversation is May 1, 2023, at 1:00 pm. Interested commission and committee members are welcome to attend.
- **School and Teacher Outreach**
  - Mr. Spivak advised the committee is preparing for the teacher listening session meeting on May 8, 2023. An email invite was sent to the educator/influencer list that was generated during the Vermont Alliance

for the Social Studies conference in December 2022. Mr. Spivak inquired about the introductory piece of the Making History at 250 booklets. Ms. McClure reported the Research Committee is currently working on the document.

**VI. Project Proposals**

- Ms. Trieschmann suggested the committee set up criteria by which the commission supports and sponsors events. Discussion continued about what criteria would best represent the mission for sponsorship, or rather endorsement. Mr. Lockridge referenced the vision statement of inclusivity as the basis for the criteria. Mr. Kruger will draft the criteria for review at the May Executive Committee meeting and then by the full Commission on June 29, 2023.
- Ms. Trieschmann spoke about regional partnerships. The Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership and the engagement of Quebec, New York, and Vermont. Mr. Brangan described the International Summit, at the Basin Harbor Club on September 17 and 18, 2023 that will focus in on the biosphere reserve, with an opportunity to convene an audience to talk about the American Revolution, which is the focus of the partnership for 2025-2027.
- Mr. Spivak provided details regarding the Regional 250<sup>th</sup> meetings, and the in-person meeting to be held at Fort Ticonderoga in June. More details to follow.

**VII. New Business**

No new business.

- **Adjournment**  
Adjourned by consensus.